

State of South Dakota

EIGHTIETH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2005

400L0647

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ENGROSSED NO. **SB** **157** - 03/04/2005

This bill has been extensively amended (hoghoused) and may no longer be consistent with the original intention of the sponsor.

Introduced by: The Committee on Education at the request of the Governor

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to direct the Department of Education to undertake a study
2 of school funding.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. The Department of Education is hereby directed to undertake a study of the
5 allocation of state funds to the various public school districts.

6 Section 2. The study shall include, but is not limited to consideration of the following
7 factors:

8 (1) The allocation of funds to sparse school districts;

9 (2) The redistribution of funds currently allocated through what is commonly called the
10 small school factor;

11 (3) The role of distance or remote education in the delivery of education services;

12 (4) The appropriate minimum size of a secondary school;

13 (5) The method by which to distribute money to account for the decline or increase in the
14 number of elementary and secondary students in the state's public schools;



1 (6) The possible inclusion of other revenues into the state aid formula; and

2 (7) Transportation services and costs.

3 Section 3. The study may include participation by members of the public as may be directed
4 by the Governor. The study shall include at least seven current members of the Legislature
5 representing a cross-section of school districts. The members shall be appointed by the
6 Executive Board of the Legislative Research Council and shall include at least one member
7 from each party from both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

8 Section 4. The Department of Education shall provide an interim report to the Legislature
9 no later than December 1, 2005. The interim report shall include preliminary findings regarding
10 sparse schools, and a final report shall follow no later than December 1, 2006.